

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A pointing device comprising:
 - a puck sub-assembly comprising:
 - a moveable puck confined to move within a puck field of motion; and
 - a support member having an opening therein that determines a boundary for said puck field of motion;
 - a base sub-assembly comprising:
 - a base surface over which said puck moves; and
 - a position detector that measures the position of said puck in said puck field of motion; and
 - an attachment mechanism for connecting said base sub-assembly to said puck sub-assembly such that said puck sub-assembly is reversibly separable from said base assembly, and said base surface is accessible when said puck sub-assembly is separated from said base assembly.
2. (Original) The pointing device of claim 1 wherein said moveable puck includes a user sensor that detects the interaction of a user and said puck.
3. (Currently amended) The pointing device of claim 1 wherein base sub-assembly is separable from said ~~base~~ puck sub-assembly without the use of tools.

4. (Original) The pointing device of claim 1 wherein said puck sub-assembly further comprises a restoring mechanism that returns said puck to a predetermined area in said puck field of motion.

5. (Original) The pointing device of claim 4 wherein said restoring mechanism comprises a spring connected to said puck.

6. (Original) The pointing device of claim 1 wherein said support member further comprises a first contact that mates with a corresponding second contact in said base sub-assembly for making an electrical connection between said puck and said base sub-assembly.

7. (Original) The pointing device of claim 6 wherein said puck is electrically connected to said first contact through a spring that returns said puck to a predetermined area in said puck field of motion.

8. (Original) The pointing device of claim 1 wherein said position sensor comprises a plurality of surface electrodes on said surface and a puck electrode that moves with said puck.

9. (Original) The pointing device of claim 1 wherein said base sub-assembly is attached to a portable host apparatus.

10. (Original) The pointing device of claim 1 wherein said base sub-assembly is integral with a portable host apparatus.